

### ENGLISH IVY IN DUNES CITY

Everyone knows English Ivy. (*Hedera helix*). It's that easy to grow vine with the ivy shaped leaves that you plant as a ground cover or erosion controller and then forget about it. It rarely gets any bug or disease problems, and can grow in deep shade, doesn't need to be watered and stays green year round. What's not to like?

The problem is that sometimes it is a little too easy to grow. In Dunes City, English Ivy has crept from people's yards and gardens and invaded nearby forests and other natural areas. Ivy kills trees by climbing into the canopies of both our Alders and Conifers, making them

ivy vines well above the area where you can reach to cut, the leaves will eventually die and drop off.

Okay, now you have the vines cut away from the trees. Now what? If you pile this predator on the ground, be aware that if left for an extended period of time, it will reroot itself where the debris contacts the soil. If you should decide to burn this pesky pest, just be sure to contact the Forest Service to see if you need a burn permit at 541-997-8753. ALSO The Siuslaw Watershed Council has declared English Ivy as an "invasive specie" so they have funds to pay for its removal from certain water



so top heavy that they can blow over. Several of these top-heavy trees have become so heavy that they have toppled into our lakes. Not good. The potential for property damage to docks and shore improvements is obvious. Dense ivy destroys habitat for natural wildlife and creates an ideal refuge for rats! Not quite so nice as you may have thought.

Oregon has banned the sale and import of generic English Ivy in an effort to avoid endangering our local ecosystem. Any use of herbicides is unthinkable.

#### SO WHAT ARE WE TO DO TO CORRAL THIS NOXIOUS INVADER?

To reign in ivy on your property, manual removal is the most effective method of control, according to the noxious weed control experts and no getting around it, a lot of physical labor may be required.

Cut the vines with a pair of garden snippers or loppers. Then pull away the vine from the tree both above and below the cut. If you can, remove the roots to about 6 feet away from the tree. This will retard the ivy from invading the tree for some time. There is no need to remove the ivy all the way up into the tree canopy. This can be hazardous and is unnecessary. Then you must be vigilant to keep the ivy cut back so it doesn't regrow. For

related areas. Call Liz at the Council 541-268-3044. While you are at it. This is a good time to remove Scotch Broom also. Neither of these stubborn weeds is native to Dunes City. English Ivy and Scotch Broom are not welcome in our beautiful Dunes City! ☘

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## Getting to know your City

**Mayor's Report** ~ January 2012 came in like a lion to the Oregon coast and Dunes City. Gale force winds buffeted our small town. Massive trees fell causing obstruction of roads, driveways and wide-spread loss of power. In all, the January storm caused thousands of dollars in damage to the property of the citizens in our small town. However great the storm damage, we are truly thankful that there was no reported physical suffering or loss of life.



Thank you so much to every citizen who reached out to their neighbor during this time. I would like to recognize the efforts of our City Recorder Fred Hilden and our professional staff for keeping me informed. I would like to recognize the efforts of Councilor Troy Sathe and the members of our Road Commission for working tirelessly on our behalf. I would like to recognize the efforts of Council President Jamie Mills who volunteered many hours helping staff call citizens to compile damage statistics.

Finally, I urge everyone to learn more about emergency preparedness. There are many opportunities available in and around our community. Contact us here at City Hall for more information or you could also contact Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue at 541-997-3212.

As Mayor and Council, Dunes City held an all day Goal Planning Work Session. The first of what will become an annual event each January. Thank you to the many Citizens who took time to write down their ideas and forwarded them to us in a timely manner. We learned that, yes, this Council is in tune with our citizenry in planning goals for our future. The established goals of this session can be grouped into four categories they are listed below in a non prioritized order.

1. Financial Stability
2. Water Quality
3. Improve Emergency Preparedness within City Limits
4. Credibility/Confidence/Good Governance

We will continue to meet and prioritize these goals into practical attainable steps.

In conclusion, I want to recognize Councilor Duke Wells for affixing the non-glare Dunes City logo sign above the Mayor's chair. "Dunes City, A Nice Place To Live!"

Mayor Rebecca Ruede ☘

**Water Quality Committee** ~ The Dunes City water monitoring program reached two major goals in the past year.



First, our Quality Assurance Project Plan was approved by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. This means we are officially recognized by the State and that they can incorporate our data into the statewide water monitoring database. We also got our own database up to date. The City provided some needed software that facilitated our effort to get our readings and lab analysis data current.

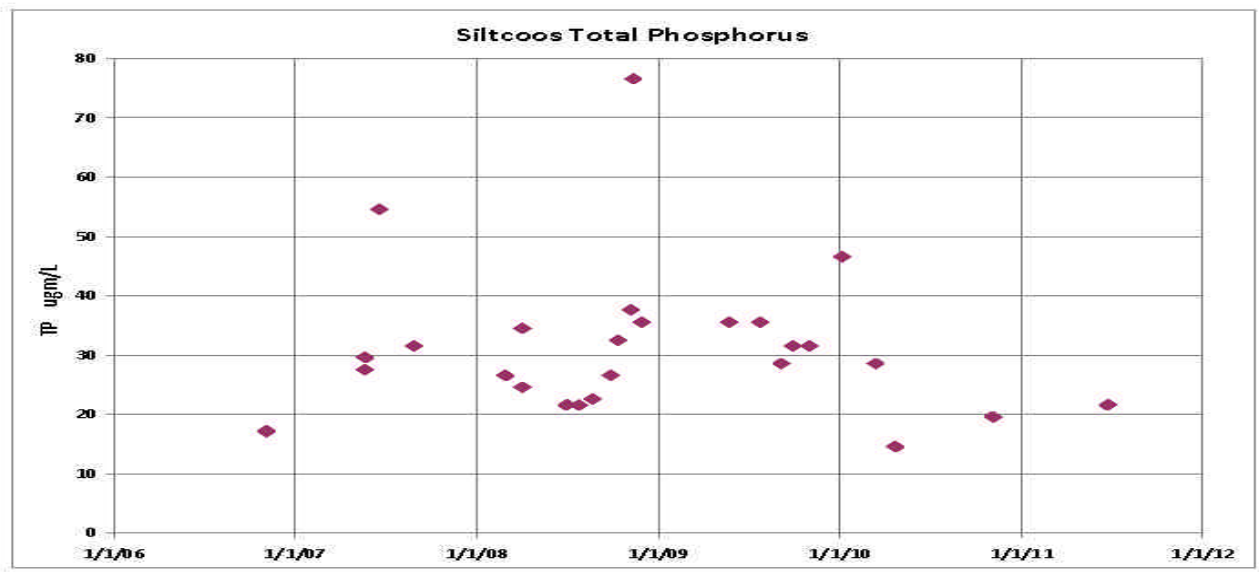
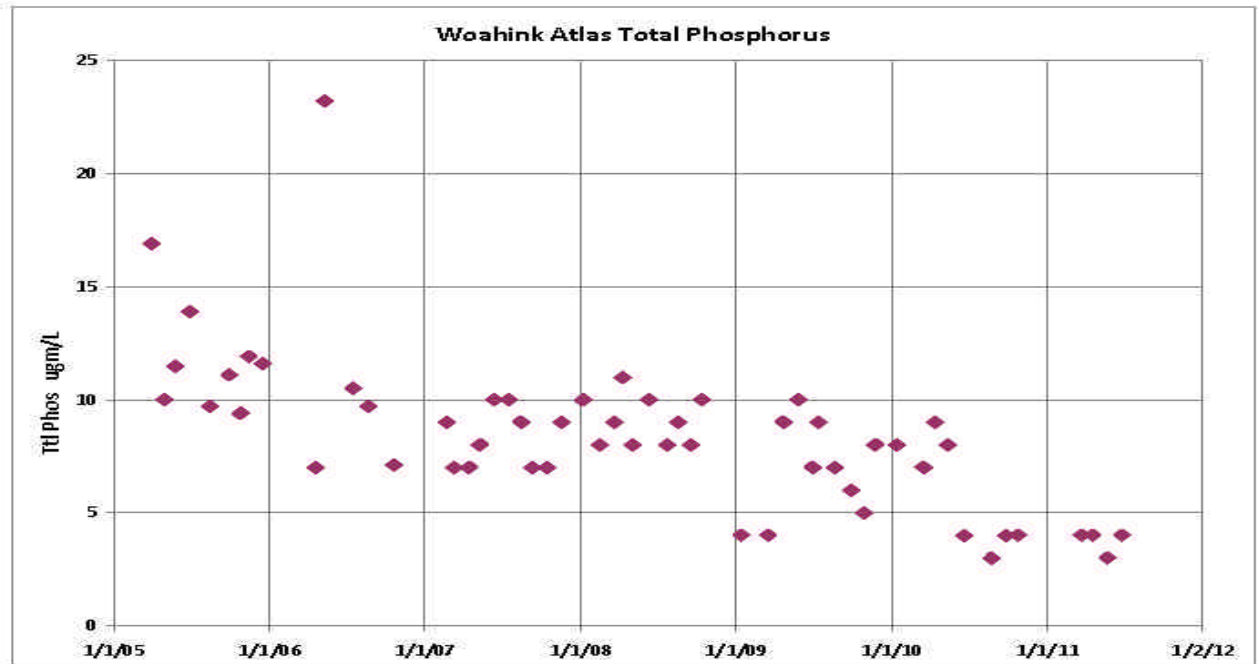
The accompanying charts show the total phosphorus levels in Woahink Lake since 2005 and Siltcoos Lake since 2006. Water samples are frozen and shipped to a lab at Oregon State University for analysis. Please note the different scales for the Total Phosphorus levels in the two lakes.

Woahink averaged around 12 micrograms per liter in 2005, then approximately 8 for several years, and less than 4 for the past couple years. The total phosphorus levels in Siltcoos have remained more stable, averaging around 30 through 2009 and also dropping some in the past two years.

The watershed for Woahink Lake is only about 10 percent of the area of the Siltcoos watershed. This may make Woahink much more sensitive to the practices of the residents around the lake, while Siltcoos is influenced more by forestry and natural processes.

While lakes can degrade naturally over thousands of years, they could degrade much faster if excess nutrients, particularly phosphorus, are allowed to impact the lake. We can help minimize the impacts on our lakes by not using phosphorus fertilizers, keeping our septic systems regularly maintained, and preserving the valuable riparian buffer along the shores of our precious lakes. ☘

Water Quality Committee continued



**The Wild Kingdom of Dunes City**

We live in the wild kingdom - or so it would seem. Dunes City residents claim to see eagles, osprey, herons, myriad of geese and all matter of waterfowl. Found here are bears, cougars, raccoons, bobcats, nutria, beaver, deer by the dozens, coyotes, rabbits, skunks and more. We doubt any other “city” enjoys such an abundance and diversity of nature’s wonders. We would enjoy hearing your stories of experiences and advice while living in this wild kingdom. 🌿



## Disaster Preparedness

In a disaster, your most immediate source of help are the neighbors living around you. Knowing what to do in the first hours of a disaster response may help you save a life, reduce the severity of possible injuries, and reduce the amount of damage the neighborhood sustains.

9 Steps to take immediately following a disaster:

### AT HOME

1. Take care of your loved ones.
2. Protect your head, feet and hands. A bicycle helmet or hard hat protects from falling debris. Sturdy shoes protect from broken glass, leather gloves protect from sharp objects. (Hint: Keep these items, along with a flashlight, under your bed.)
3. Check the propane, if any at your home and shut it off if necessary. This is one of the best ways to prevent fire.
4. Shut off water at the house main to trap water in your home and to keep pollutants out of possible drinking water, like that in your water heater.
5. Place a HELP or OK sign on your front door or window. Posting the sign helps your neighbors locate those who need help first.
6. Put your fire extinguisher out where neighbors can see it. That way, if a neighbor has a small fire after the disaster, extinguishers are immediately available.

### WITH NEIGHBORS

7. After steps 1 through 6 are completed, go to the Neighborhood Gathering Site. (Hint: Don't have one or don't know it? Time to attend a class at the fire station!)
8. Form teams at the Neighborhood Gathering Site to:
  - Team 1 will listen to the Emergency Alert System (AM/FM radio) or to a NOAA weather radio and keep neighbors informed of what they learn.
  - Team 2 will check on neighbors who are elderly, those with disability, or children who may be home alone.
  - Team 3 will check all propane tanks and shut off the gas as necessary.
  - Team 4 will check on all homes with the "Help" card displayed on the front door or window, or with no card showing. Be prepared to give first aid. Trust your instincts. If something feels unsafe, stay out!
9. After your Team has completed its work, go back to the Neighborhood Gathering Site. Share what you have done with the rest of your neighbors.

**BEING PREPARED IS A LOT BETTER THAN BEING SCARED! R U READY?**

All classes held at the Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue in Florence begin at 9:30 a.m. and are finished by noon. Upcoming class schedule:

April 14: Documents & Pet Stress Reactions  
May 12: Are You Ready? Map your Neighborhood  
June 9: Shelter-in-Place



**Communication & Education Committee** ~ In the last issue of the Dunes City Newsletter we introduced you, our citizens, to the Mayor and the City Council with each giving a short biography and a picture. This newsletter reports some of their activities and the challenges that each Councilor faces. We are a volunteer city government with each Councilor heading several committees. They can function only with volunteers. See page six for a list of all the citizens who serve you.

This committee is working to educate not only Dunes City, but the entire area regarding the desirability and beauty found here. Truly, this is a friendly and a wonderful place to live. Your input and suggestions are always welcome. 🌿



**John Murphey**  
Agent

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**Volunteers with a boat!!!**

The Water Quality Committee is looking for volunteers that are willing to allow the use of their boat for water testers once each month. They would prefer one volunteer for Siltcoos Lake and one for Woahink Lake. Contact Jamie Mills at 541-902-7651 if you are interested. ☘

## City Council

The City Council is comprised of a seven person non-compensated board consisting of a mayor and six councilors.

Position	Name	Term Ends
Mayor	Rebecca Ruede	1/10/2013
Council President	Jamie Mills	1/10/2013
Councilor	Dick Anderson	1/8/2015
Councilor	Richard Koehler	1/10/2013
Councilor	Ed Scarberry	1/10/2013
Councilor	Troy Sathe	1/8/2015
Councilor	Duke Wells	1/8/2015

## Budget Committee\*

Position	Name	Term Ends
Budget Officer	Fred Hilden	N/A
Citizen Member	April Dumas	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	Robert Read	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	Jo Owen	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	Darlene Beckman	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Jackie Crave	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Maurice Sanders	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Paul Floto	6/30/2014

\* Also includes all City Councilors.

## Communications & Education Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Dick Anderson	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	Vacancy	12/31/2014
Citizen Member	Darlene Beckman	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	Steve Burton	12/31/2013

## Conservation Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Dick Anderson	1/8/2015
Citizen Member	Judy Johnson	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	Lee Riechel	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	David Jackson	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	Ronelle Kuert	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	David Dumas	12/31/2014

## Ordinance Review Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Jamie Mills	1/12/2012
Citizen Member	George Burke	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	Steve Burton	1/9/2014

## Parks & Recreation Commission

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Richard Koehler	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	Mimi Tizzard	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Roberta Dalbeck	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	Gary Lapping	6/30/2014
Citizen Member	April Dumas	6/30/2013

**Web Master ~ [www.dunescity.com](http://www.dunescity.com)**  
Richard Koehler

## Planning Commission

Position	Name	Term Ends
Commission Chair	Lee Riechel	12/31/2014
Commissioner	Ken Henderson	12/31/2012
Commissioner	Darlene Beckman	12/31/2012
Commissioner	Paul Gargis	12/31/2014
Commissioner	George Burke	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Norman Martin	12/31/2013

## Revenue Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	EdScarberry	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	John Stead	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	Vacancy	12/31/2014
Citizen Member	Vacancy	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	April Dumas	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	Vacancy	12/31/2014

## Road Commission

Position	Name	Term Ends
Commission Chair	Troy Sathe	1/8/2015
Commissioner	Jerry Curran	12/31/2014
Commissioner	Richard Palmer	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Henry Leach	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Ron Tucker	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Bill Harris	12/31/2012

## Site Review Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Duke Wells	1/8/2015
Citizen Member	Milton Farrand	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	David Dumas	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	Ken Platt	12/31/2012

## Water Quality Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Jamie Mills	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	John Stead	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	David Gosselin	12/31/2014
Citizen Member	Carlton Smith	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	David Dumas	12/31/2014
Citizen Member	Milton Farrand	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	Ken Pesnell	12/31/2014
Citzn. Water Tester	Mark Chandler	12/31/2013
Vol. Water Tester	Steven Hager	n/a
Vol. Water Tester	Vacancy	n/a

## Dunes City Staff

Position	Name	Email
City Recorder	Fred Hilden	recorder@dunescityor.com
Admin. Assistant	Selena Carter	admin@dunescityor.com
Permits	Haley Nelson	permits@dunescityor.com
Planning Secretary	Brandie Bell	planning@dunescityor.com
Road Secretary	Brandie Bell	roads@dunescityor.com
Office Hours:	Mon - Thurs	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Phone: (541) 997-3338		Fax: (541) 997-5751

82877 Spruce St ~ PO Box 97, Westlake , OR 97493



## Site Review Committee / Greengate Road Ad Hoc Committee / Septic Ad Hoc Committee ~



During the last year it has been my pleasure to serve on two Ad Hoc Committees: 1) Greengate Road Gap; and 2) the Ordinance #211A Septic Maintenance Education Program. I have also served as the chairman of the Site Review Committee, during which time we have received six complaints and performed six site reviews. None of these would have been possible without the many volunteers coming forward with their time, energy, and expertise. My thanks go out to each and every one of these citizens who have made these endeavors successful.

Thank-you for the opportunity to serve you on the Dunes City Council. It has been over a year since the new Council has been in place and I feel we have made good progress in reinstating and protecting citizens personal and property rights here in Dunes City. Although, through talking with folks here in our community, it's clear to me that while we have more work to do, we are on the right track. I'm looking forward to working on these issues in the coming months.

As for myself, as most of you know, I ran for office on a personal and property rights platform. I do feel my voting record stands for itself when it comes to these issues. I also feel good being a part of a City Council that has had the integrity to listen to the citizens and has had the courage to make the tough, sometimes controversial decisions, with the commitment to stand behind that process. By doing so, I believe, we are truly making Dunes City, "A NICE PLACE TO LIVE" for our citizens now and in the future.

In the near future I would like to see the establishment of an annual "Volunteer of the Year" recognition award for a deserving Dunes City citizen.

It has been an interesting year! Thank you again for your support. Duke Wells ~ Proud to be a Dunes City Councilor 🍀

**Revenue Committee** ~ The Revenue Committee currently has 3 members: John Stead, April Dumas and Chairman Ed Scarberry.

Since December 2011, our Committee has been without a quorum, thereby preventing us from meeting and carrying out the Committee's goals and duties.

In previous meetings, the Committee discussed the following topics as related to revenue:

1. Compliance Officer;
2. A Judge;
3. Franchise fee levels;
4. Obtaining grants; and
5. Fundraising events.

The possibility of Dunes City sponsoring an event of some kind in order to attract out of town visitors and raising income for the City has been discussed.

Currently, discussions are ongoing related to a possible Triathlon in Dunes City.

At this point, it is important to bring the Revenue Committee up to full membership. What talents can you bring? Please contact City Hall for information on how to serve your community. The Committee meets once a month at 3:30 pm.

Submitted by Ed Scarberry, Councilor 🍀

### Community Emergency Notification System "ALERT ME!" for the Lane County Area.

Did you know that public safety agencies in Lane County have expanded the capabilities of their Community Emergency Notification System? Critical emergency information can now be sent to your cell phone in a similar manner to how emergency alerts are issued to land-lines via the 9-1-1 system. By registering your cell phone number, emergency alerts can be sent as e-mails, telephone calls, and/or via text messaging.

This service is available to you at no additional charge by public safety agencies in Lane County and is endorsed by Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue, Western Lane Emergency Medical Services, Lane County Sheriff's Office and others.

For more information, stop by Dunes City Hall for an information sheet or visit [www.lcog.org/alertme](http://www.lcog.org/alertme) for more information and/or to register. Act now and be prepared! 🍀



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